

22. OCCURRENCE OF *PLEUROXUS SIMILIS* VAVRA
(CLADOCERA: CRUSTACEA) IN INDIA

During a study of the Cladocera fauna of Madhya Pradesh I came across six female specimens of *Pleuroxus similis* Vavra which were sorted out from the small zooplankton sample collected by my colleague, Sri P. L. Kankane from Deshi Nala, Kanha National Park, Mandla district, Madhya Pradesh, in April 1977. Existing records show that this species is so far recorded from Australia; Valdivia (Chile); Northern Caucasus lake, Tashkent in the U.S.S.R., and Sri Lanka. The present find therefore extends its known range of distribution to Central India.

Pleuroxus similis Vavra, 1900

FEMALE. The specimens studied agree well with the description by Smirnov (1971) which is briefly reads: Dorsal margin uniformly convex. Posterior margin almost straight. Maximum height 3-4 times length of posterior

margin. Rostrum pointed, reaching level of ventral margin of the valve. Valve with no pattern. Ventral margin of the valve with three rather blunt denticles. Antennules ending far before apex of rostrum. Post-abdomen slightly tapering. Dorsal distal corner of post-abdomen situated slightly behind base of claws. Preanal corner blunt, there are 13-14 anal denticles. Claw with two basal spines, first is about half the length of second. Colour of the specimens shows variation from yellow to dark brown. Intestine with loops and with caecum. Distance of ocellus to eye half its distance to apex of rostrum. (Length range: 0.37 mm-0.45 mm)

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PRAMOD RANE

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23. NEW RECORDS OF *GRIMALDINA BRAZZAI* RICHARD AND
BOSMINOPSIS DEITERSI RICHARD (CRUSTACEA: CLADOCERA)
FROM INDIA

During the course of Cladocera Survey in Madhya Pradesh I collected some specimens of *Grimaldina brazzai* Richard and

Bosminopsis deitersi Richard, from tanks of Jabalpur, which constitute a new record from India. The presence of these species in India

is quite interesting because the first was hitherto known only from Sri Lanka (Fernando 1974), America (Brooks 1959) and West Africa whereas the second was reported only from Sri Lanka and America. Thus the distribution of these species has been extended to Central India.

1) *Grimaldina brazzai* Richard, 1892

This sole species of the genus can be easily isolated from others in having a very large compressed post-abdomen, with a long spine-bearing notch. The other characters in brief are as follows :

Body compressed, somewhat quadrangular, with all margins of the valve slightly convex. A notch divides the preanal portion into two parts, of which the anterior is smaller. A long spine in the notch marks the junction of anal and preanal portions of the postabdomen. There are two lateral rows of small slender spines on the anal part, about 7 in anterior and 5 in posterior row. Claw small, denticulate with one small basal spine. Antennules with two basal sense hairs in female.

Material — 7 specimens, Budhager tank, c. 22 kms. North of Jabalpur on Sihora Road, Jabalpur distt., Madhya Pradesh, 18.iv.81, length, female — 1 mm.

The specimens were collected with other

Cladocera like *Chydoras sphaericus*, *Ceriodaphnia* sp. and *Simocephalus* spp. At the time of collection the tank was completely covered with cultivated vegetation, mostly *Trapa bipinosa* Roxb.

2) *Bosminopsis deitersi* Richard, 1895

This species is much like its closely related *Bosmina* sp., but the main difference is that the basal parts of the antennules are united with each other and to the head to form a very long rostrum, diverging laterally near the apex, with long, straggling, olfactory setae. The inferopostal corner of valve with two (one small and one large) teeth is also one of the main differentiating characters. The species closely resembles the original description but differs in the valve character which is prolonged at the posterodorsal angle to form a tooth-like projection.

Material — 5 specimens, Pariat tank, c. 30 kms. east of Jabalpur on Amarkantak Road, Jabalpur distt., Madhya Pradesh 10.xii.1980, length — 0.3 to 0.35 mm.

The water of the tank was green due to the predominance of floating flora viz., *Volvox*, *Euglena* and rooted plants. The associated Cladoceran species includes *Scapholeberis* sp. and *Diphanosoma* spp.

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